



MINERAL PRODUCTS Inc.

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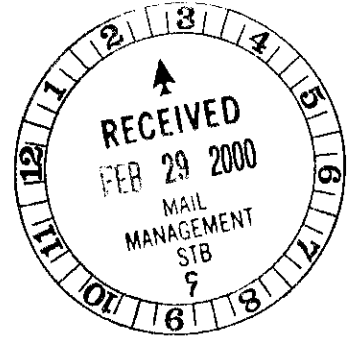
February 26, 2000

Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
Case Control Unit
Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 582
1925 K Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of the Secretary

FEB 29 2000

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Dear Secretary,

My company, ISP Mineral Products, owns and operates three manufacturing facilities within the United States and depends on rail transportation to ship approximately 7,000 carloads of roofing granules annually using Burlington Northern/Santa Fe; CSXT; Union Pacific; Wisconsin Central and others.

While we are not opposed to or in support of the proposed BNSF/CN merger, we are concerned that any major rail consolidation, such as BNSF/CN, will most likely lead to more mergers and consolidations. That is what history dictates of virtually every major industry as company's react to the changing environment in the marketplace to remain competitive. While the time may come when additional mergers become appropriate, we believe that at this time the railroad industry should concentrate on the important task of improving their service in the current industry structure.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Toth

Robert Toth
Manager, Logistics
ISP Mineral Products